

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By C. B. PINKHAM, M. D.
Secretary of the Board

News Items, December

At the annual meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held in Sacramento October 21, P. T. Phillips was reelected president for the thirteenth term; William R. Molony, vice-president; Charles B. Pinkham, secretary-treasurer, for the seventeenth term.

Refusal of private hospitals throughout the state to accept narcotic addicts for treatment, reported by James Collins, director of Professional and Vocational Standards, is creating a serious situation, state authorities admitted today . . . (San Diego *Tribune*, November 1, 1929). Questionnaires have been distributed by the Board of Medical Examiners to five hundred hospitals and sanitariums in California. Thus far only fifty-six have asked for approval to give private treatment to narcotic addicts, in accordance with the provisions of the State Narcotic Law and Medical Practice Act.

Y. Iheda was on November 1 found guilty of violation of Section 17 of the Medical Practice Act at Salinas and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 in connection with the rapidly growing practice of certain Japanese in promoting the sun-ray machine, the defendant admitting that he had no knowledge whatsoever of any of the ailments he was treating, nor had he any hospital or medical training, although a beautifully engrossed Japanese diploma, certifying that he was a Sun-Ray College graduate, was hanging in his office, which he said was given to him at the time he purchased the machine he was using.

Gilbert A. Kelley, Bridgeport physician, won a dismissal of the charges recently filed before the Board of Medical Examiners when the case was heard at a regular meeting of the board held in Sacramento, October 24, 1929.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held in Sacramento October 22, 1929, the license heretofore issued entitling Robert C. Kirkwood to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of California was revoked.

Dr. Roy S. Lanterman, former Los Angeles County Coroner, today was freed from the charge of performing or aiding an illegal operation on Miss Delphine Walsh, motion picture actress and dancer, who later died from the operation. The State Board of Medical Examiners held that the testimony against Lanterman was inadequate. A similar charge of performing an abortion on Miss Nellie White of Los Angeles on December 10, 1928, was continued (Los Angeles *Herald*, October 23, 1929). (Previous entry, September 1929.)

Investigation discloses that the fake University of Illinois medical diploma found in possession of K. Higashi was made by a commercial engraver in Los Angeles, who stated that Higashi furnished the wording of the copy; also that Higashi affixed the signatures and that said engraver later made another similar diploma.

Dr. George E. Darrow, Azusa physician, is held in the county jail, faced with imprisonment for life in state prison in consequence of a verdict of a jury in Superior Judge Emmett H. Wilson's court, which adjudged him guilty of second degree murder in connection with the death of Miss Jennie Peterson, twenty-three, who died from an illegal operation performed by Doctor Darrow . . . (Covina *Citizen*, October 31, 1929).

The Los Angeles *Examiner* of November 1, 1929, relates a raid on the office of "Dr." D. R. Gonzales, 29-year-old Filipino, when fraudulent diplomas from Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, and Cambridge University, London, and a fraudulent license to practice in the State of California were seized. Gonzales is charged with violation of the Medical Practice Act, it being reported that he was carrying on quite an extensive practice among the Filipinos.

According to the Sacramento *Bee* of October 22, 1929, R. J. Howard, charged with violation of the Medical Practice Act, failed to appear in the Justice Court at Redding when his case was called for trial and Judge R. P. Stimmel declared Howard's cash bail of \$200 forfeited, issued a bench warrant for the arrest of Howard and raised his bail to \$1000.

Issuance of a warrant for Dr. John C. Newton, 291 Geary Street, inaugurated a campaign yesterday against careless writing of narcotic prescriptions by physicians. Inspector Francis O'Farrell swore out the warrant. He stated persons for whom Doctor Newton had written prescriptions denied receiving them . . . (San Francisco *Examiner*, October 19, 1929).

At a regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held at the State Capitol, Sacramento, October 24, 1929, the license heretofore issued to Thomas O. Greig, entitling him to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of California was revoked. (Previous entry, "News Items," October 1929.)

At a regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held in Sacramento October 23, 1929, the license of Ralph Newcomb, Upper Lake, California, to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of California was restored, without alcohol privilege.

The Mexican Senate today approved the Bill of Professions, which requires all foreign professionals doing business in Mexico to become naturalized Mexican citizens (press dispatch dated Mexico City, October 15, published in the Sacramento *Bee*, October 15, 1929).

After deliberating until 11:25 last night, the jury hearing the long-delayed case of Frederick G. Collett was locked up for the night. Collett is one of the defendants in the notorious \$300,000 Rellimeo mail fraud indictment. The case was heard yesterday in the court of Federal Judge Harold Louderback. Collett was indicted in March 1928, along with Orlando E. Miller, now a fugitive from justice, and two other officers of the company. They are accused of fleecing a number of Bay District residents, largely women, out of \$300,000 in the sale of the defunct film company stock . . . (San Francisco *Examiner*, December 25, 1929). (Previous entries June, October, November, 1926; March, 1927; March, 1928.)

Dr. James Hayes Taylor, fifty-four, wanted in Waynesboro, Tennessee, for impersonating a federal officer, is scheduled to start back tomorrow in custody of a United States marshal. Taylor was arrested here recently in company with Mrs. Ruth Lee Garrison, twenty-five, with whom he motored to California (San Francisco *Call*, November 1, 1929).

R. A. Cain, asserted licensed chiropractor, reported arrested in Sacramento, October 19, on a charge of issuing spurious checks.

Some idea of the number of licensed chiropractors in California may be drawn from the announcement in the Sacramento *Union* of November 1, 1929, that the State Chiropractic Board had mailed 2800 renewal application blanks to chiropractors licensed to practice in California.